SUBJECT No. 56.

Enhancement of the scale of potgi of shanbhogs and patels.

Messrs. Srinivas Sitaram Kulkarni, Harihar Sub-Taluk; Nanja Gowda and Shanbhog Sinappa, Krishnarajpete Taluk; and Chenna Basappa Gowda, Nagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The scale of remuneration to patels and shanbhogs at Rs. 4 and Rs. 3 per cent, respectively, on the total amount of jamabandi of each village, was fixed by Government in the Potgi Rules 30 years ago. The Government, having recognised the changes in the economic conditions of the country, have been pleased to raise the pay of the officials of the several Departments. It is therefore prayed that the scale of Rs. 4 and Rs. 3 per cent to patels and shanbhogs now in force under the Potgi Rules may be raised to Rs. 5 and 4, respectively. In taluks where the revised settlement has been introduced, the potgi should be revised according to the revised settlement collections.

The member for the Nagar Taluk urges in general terms that the potgi of the patels may be increased and their powers enhanced.

Reply of Government.—The rates are sufficiently high and cannot be raised. Nearly 8·09 per cent of the revenue collection is paid as potgi. The potgi is revised once in ten years and oftener, if necessary.

SUBJECT No. 57.

Shanbhogs' potgi not to be less than Rs. 12 per mensem.

Mr. Srinivas Sitaram Kulkarni, Harihar Sub-Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The shanbhog is required to prepare all the accounts for each village in his circle; but the potgi is calculated not by each village but upon the revenue of all the villages in the circle put together. It is therefore prayed that a circle may be so constituted that the aggregate potgi for it may not fall short of Rs. 12 per mensem.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 58.

Appointment of Brahmin patels.

Mr. Rama Rao, Malur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—According to a Chief Commissioner's circular, it is ordered that patels to be newly appointed ought not to be Brahmins. It is requested that this restriction may be removed.

Reply of Government.—There is nothing in the Chief Commissioner's circular to prevent the appointment of Brahmins as patels if they have a hereditary right or in filling up temporary vacancies if found to be otherwise most eligible.

SUBJECT No. 59.

A patel to be in charge of one or more villages.

Mr. Dodvenkatarama Reddi, Chintamani Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The rules require that there must be one patel for each village. In the case of bechirakh and other small villages, the potgi of which is very insignificant, it is not possible to secure competent men for the work. In His Majesty's territory, a Village Magistrate is appointed for many villages of large extent. It is requested that a patel may be allowed to be in charge of one or more villages, at least in convenient places.